

**From:** D. Sauntry  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 1/6/02 11:18pm  
**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

Hello.

I'm writing to express my approval for the Microsoft Settlement. I understand that I am within the public comment period, and I would like to register my view that the settlement is within the public interest.

Microsoft has worked hard to reduce the price of software. Years ago, single applications would cost hundreds of dollars. Windows now includes some of that functionality for free in the Operating System, in a way that makes it much easier to use. The competition, such as Oracle, Sun, and Apple, continue to sell competing solutions at much higher prices. They would very much like to see Microsoft artificially held back in order to benefit their ill-conceived marketing strategies.

The settlement provides significant relief for the behavior that Microsoft has been found guilty. It should be approved. Any further action would go beyond the findings and work to significantly disadvantage Microsoft in the future market -- and obviously advantage the above competitors. I fear that the end result of any further action will be higher prices paid by consumers.

In short, the settlement is in the public interest.

Thank you,  
David Sauntry